

Appln. No. 10/526,301 (20959P)
Amdt. Dated April 26, 2006
Reply to Office Action of January 26, 2006

REMARKS

Claims 2-21 are now pending. Claim 1 has been canceled to expedite prosecution. Claims 2, 10, 18 and 21 have been amended to more particular define the claimed invention. No new matter has been added.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103

Claims 1 and 21 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as being unpatentable over Bopp (U.S. 6,130,353). Without conceding to the merits of the rejection, applicants have canceled claim 1 and amended claim 21 to depend from allowable claim 2, thereby obviating the § 103 rejection.

Objections to Claims 2-20

The Examiner has indicated that dependent claims 2-20 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Applicants have amended claims 2-20 accordingly, thereby obviating the Examiner's objections.

CONCLUSION

In view of the above remarks, applicants request that the rejection and objections be withdrawn and that the application be permitted to issue. The Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned should any minor matters need to be resolved before a Notice of Allowance can be mailed.

Respectfully submitted,

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